New ramps open at Jomax, Carefree Highway

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A new Interstate 17 interchange at Jomax Road and the Carefree Highway is open to traffic, providing drivers with another option for freeway access in the area.

Three of the four ramps at the interchange also are open to traffic. The southbound exit ramp will remain closed for about a month to allow construction of a sound wall along the frontage road on the west side of I-17. That work is part of the massive I-17 widening project, which will add two new lanes in each direction between Loop 101 and Carefree Highway.

The interchange also connects to a new section of Jomax Road extending east of I-17 to Norterra Parkway. The City of Phoenix completed work along that stretch of Jomax Road to coincide with the opening of the freeway interchange.

Construction of the Jomax Road interchange began in May 2007.

Four new interchanges are being added to improve freeway access along I-17 north of Loop 101. ADOT opened the Dixileta Drive interchange in March. Crews also will build interchanges at Dove Valley Road and the future Loop 303 connection.

It's all part of a massive I-17 reconstruction effort targeted for completion in 2009 and included in the 20-year Regional Transportation Plan. Another project to widen I-17 between Carefree Highway and Anthem Way is scheduled to begin in 2009, with completion in 2010.

More information about I-17 improvements, including maps and timetables, can be found at www. ValleyFreeways.com or by calling the I-17 hotline at 480-890-3055. Drivers are encouraged to sign up for ADOT's weekly I-17 e-mail alerts for construction-related restrictions.

For a complete listing of freeway and highway restrictions across Arizona, visit ADOT's Travel Information site at www.az511.gov or call 511.